

REMARKS

Attached hereto is a marked-up copy version of the changes made to the specification, claims and abstract by the current Amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

Entry of the above amendments prior to examination is respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (367.40119X00).

Respectfully submitted,

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Version with markings to show changes made

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 27, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- The invention is not intended to be limited to the video coding protocols discussed above: these are intended to be merely exemplary. The invention is applicable to any video coding protocol in which temporal prediction may be used. The addition of the information as discussed above allows a receiving decoder to determine that a reference picture has been lost and to take appropriate action. --

~~What is claimed is:~~

IN THE CLAIMS

Page 28, line 1, insert --What is claimed is:--.

Please amend the claims as follows:

4. (Amended) A method according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein the indicator is included in a picture header.

12. (Amended) A portable radio communications device including ~~an~~ at least one of a video encoder according to ~~claim~~ 9

~~or 10 and/or a~~ and a video decoder according to claim 11,

wherein said video decoder comprises:

an input for receiving a video signal representing a sequence of pictures and for generating encoded pictures, said encoder being arranged to employ both non-temporal prediction and temporal prediction, wherein the encoder is arranged, for each picture that forms a reference picture for the temporal prediction of another picture, to associate with each reference picture an indicator indicating the temporal order of the reference picture in the encoded video signal relative to other reference pictures in the encoded video signal, and

wherein said video decoder comprises:

an input for receiving an encoded video signal representing a sequence of pictures, a decoder for decoding each received picture, the decoder being arranged to examine for each picture to be decoded that forms a reference picture for another picture an indicator representing the temporal order of a reference frame and, when the indicator does not follow consecutively from an immediately preceding decoded reference frame, to detect a lost reference frame.